BAMA

INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

NOVEMBER, 1987 VOLUME 9, NUMBER 9

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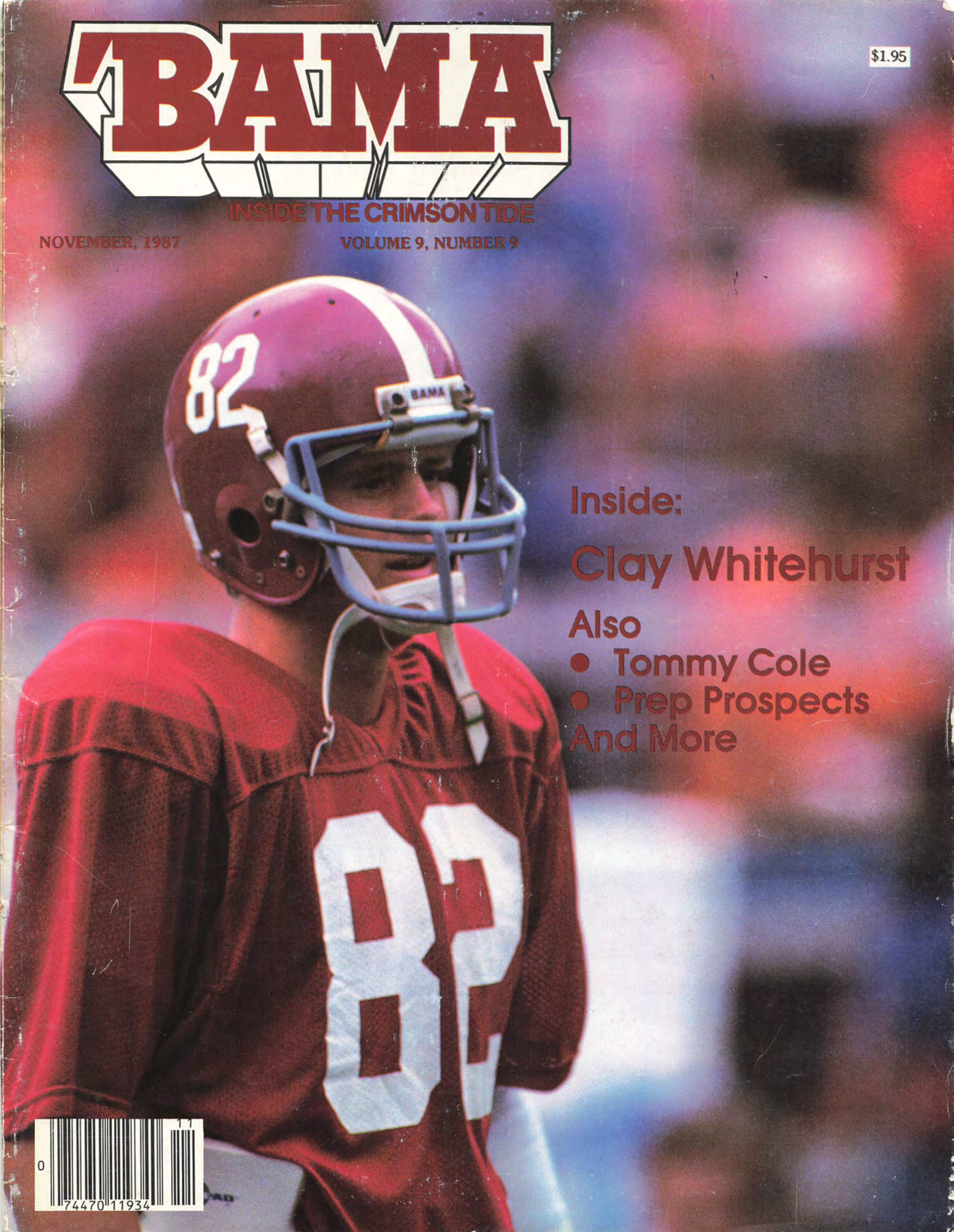

Inside:

Clay Whitehurst

Also

- Tommy Cole
- Prep Prospects

And More

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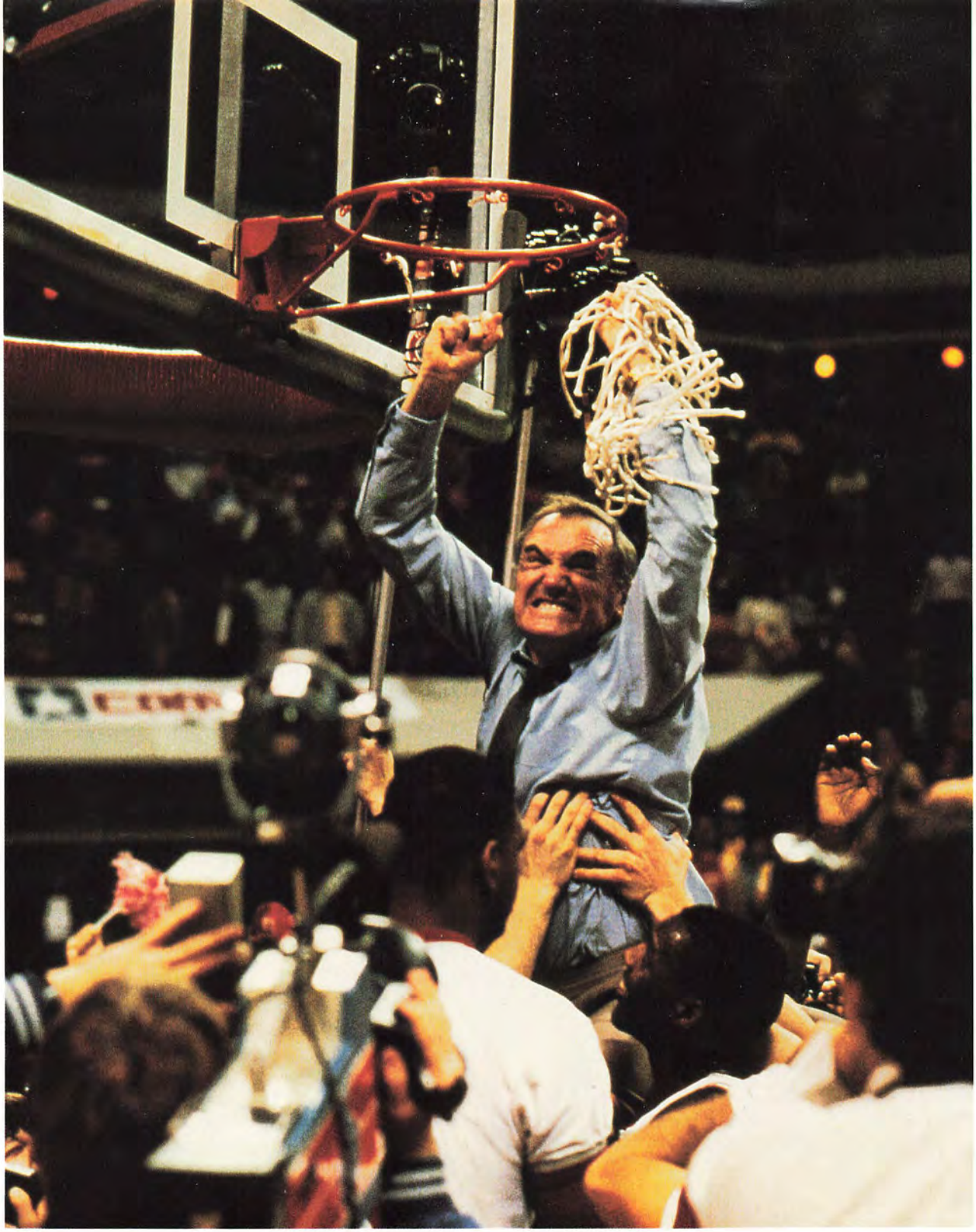

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'BAMA
INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

NOVEMBER, 1987 VOLUME 9, NUMBER 9

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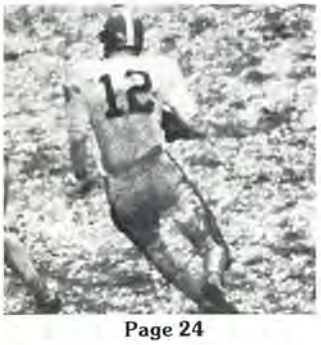

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It seems as though everyone is interested in football recruiting. Crimson Tide football recruiters should be particularly interested in linemen this year, and it's considered a banner year in the state for the big men. Here's **'BAMA**'s first in-depth recruiting analysis. **by David White**

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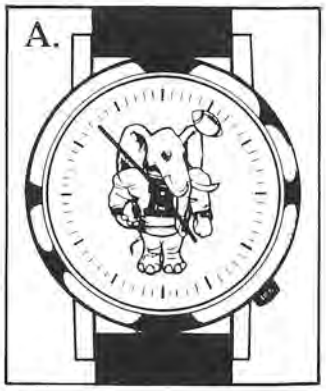

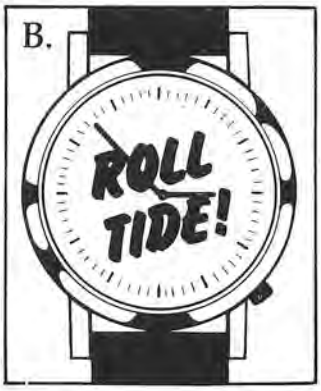

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Alabama's Big Men A Big Story

by David White

Recruiting experts consider it a banner year for linemen in state

Jason Abrams

Hal Adair

Cory Barnett

Paul Bishop

There is little question that a top need of Alabama's football recruiters this year will be linemen. The good news is that this is considered a banner year for linemen in the state of Alabama, which is always Bama's first priority recruiting area.

Although college coaches are prohibited from discussing specific prospects (and wouldn't even if they could), the names of prep performers being considered by various colleges are bandied about freely in recruiting publications, newspaper sports sections, and whenever two or more college fans gather. Information for this report comes from numerous publications, the prospects and their coaches.

'BAMA's first report on prep prospects deals with the interior lineman, tight ends, and linebackers in Alabama. Later features will spotlight backs and wide receivers of the state and outstanding prospects from other states.

This should not be taken as the Crimson Tide's list of prospects, for it certainly includes some Bama will not recruit and there is a very good chance that a player not included here is being wooed by the Tide. Signings may begin February 10. These prospects are listed in alphabetical order.

Jason Abrams is a familiar name to Alabama fans because his brother, Charlie, is a tight end for the Crimson Tide. Jason, 6-3, 215, is a tight end and defensive end for Coach Fred Schoenrock at Demopolis. Abrams is only 17 years old and his coach doesn't think he has yet reached his potential, but notes he has great blocking ability. Abrams is also a solid student. He's a three-year letterman who has started for the past two years. He's also an excellent baseball player. Abrams attended Mississippi State's football camp last summer.

Terrance Acey, 6-2, 298, is the offensive right tackle for Coach Jerry Stearns at Birmingham Woodlawn. He runs a 5.2 and bench presses 370 pounds. A three-year starter and letterman, Acey also throws the shot put in track. He is a solid student.

Hal Adair, 6-6, 220, plays both ways for Coach Gary Carlyle at Fultondle. Adair runs a 5.1 40 and bench presses 210 pounds. On defense he has recorded a 12-tackle game but most opponents choose to run away from him. On offense he has graded 70 percent and is improving each game. A versatile athlete, Hal averaged 18 points as the center on the basketball team and is also a shotputter on the track team. A three-year starter, he also averages 42 yards as the team's punter. He is an excellent student.

Cory Barnett, 6-2, 210, plays both tight end and defensive tackle for Coach Veston Newcomb at Talledega High. His coach feels Barnett can be a very good tight end and notes he has both good hands and a good sense of routes. A three-year starter, he was all-county as a linebacker last year. Barnett bench presses 250 pounds and is a solid student.

David Battle, 6-4, 250, has been an outstanding three-year performer for Coach Paul Parvin at Huntsville J.O. Johnson. Coach Parvin notes Battle was all-city second team as a sophomore defensive tackle, as a junior he was first team all-city as an offensive tackle and defensive tackle, and all-state as defensive tackle last year as well. He runs a 4.8 40 and benches 300. In one of his top games this year he graded 91 percent on the offensive side and on defense he had 14 tackles, 17 assists, and caused a fumble as nose guard and tackle. An excellent athlete, Battle has won two letters in track, and one each in wrestling and basketball. Battle is a good student.

Chris Battiste, 6-4, 255, dropped 40 pounds in the offseason and has improved steadily this year for Coach Ed Latham at Mobile B.C. Rain. A two-year starter and three-year letterman, Battiste is averaging four tackles and two assists a game. He runs a 5.3 40 and benches 325 and throws the discus in track. Battiste is a member of the student council at school and has good grades.

Rufus Bester, 6-3, 225, has been a "real force" on the defensive front for Coach Carrol Cox at Bessemer Jess Lanier. This year Bester has averaged nine tackles and seven assists for the perennial 6A powerhouse. Bester runs a 4.5 40 and benches 315. Last year he was both all-metro and all-county and honorable mention all-state for a team that finished second in the state. A two-year starter, Bester's best position is defensive end according to Coach Cox.

Paul Bishop, 6-2, 242, has had a solid senior season for Coach Bobby Johnson at Centre Cherokee County High. Bishop has graded in the high 80s and low 90s every game this season. He runs a 4.9 40 and benches 345. Bishop won the offensive lineman award last season for his team and was an all-area selection as an offensive guard last year as well. A versatile athlete, he also pitches and plays first base for the baseball team. Bishop is an excellent student.

Larry Bolton, 6-2, 246, is the anchor of the offenive line for Coach Bill Odom at Mobile Baker. Odom describes Bolton as both dependable and consistent this year as the team's center, short yardage defensive tackle, and deep snapper on punts and extra points. A three-year starter, he has graded consistently in the 80s on a strict grading system. He runs a 5.0 40 and benches 295. He is active in the student body and is a very good student.

Donnel Brannon, 6-4, 266, has been an improving performer for Coach Danny Patterson at Florence Bradshaw. A three-year

Larry Bolton

Barry Broglin

Chris Butler

Tony Cannon

Steve Cleveland

Steven Cross

starter, Brannon has 10 tackles, 31 assists, caused one fumble, and has recovered three so far this year. He runs a 5.2 40 and benches 255. Brannon plays both offensive and defensive tackle, and is the long snapper on punts. He placed in the state last year in the shotput and discus.

Barry Broglin, 6-3, 250, is both an offensive and defensive tackle for Coach Hogan at Haleyville. In his best performance this year, Broglin had 19 tackles against Muscle Shoals. A two-year letterman and one year starter, he was the most outstanding defensive player of the year for Haleyville last year. Besides being captain of the football team, Broglin is also a two-year letterman in track as a shotputter.

Chris Butler, 6-2, 220, has been a "big play" man for Coach Parvin at J.O. Johnson. At inside linebacker, Butler has recorded 38 tackles after five games. He started midway through his sophomore year and has earned three letters. He runs a 4.7 40 and benches 315 pounds. Butler also throws the discus in track.

Brad Campbell, 6-4, 220, goes both ways for Coach Garner Ezell at Athens. His coach says he does an excellent job opening holes on the offensive side and is one of the team leaders in tackles on defense. While he anchors the offensive line as the center, as defensive end he has been a big reason for the defense shutting out its opponents in six of seven games so far this year. He runs a 5.1 40 and benches 250 pounds. Campbell also is a forward on the basketball team and a first baseman in baseball. He is an excellent student.

Tony Cannon, 6-4, 235, has all the tools at tight end according to Coach William Jessie at Mobile LeFlore. After missing the first few games due to a dislocated shoulder, Cannon has caught nine passes for 160 yards and one touchdown. As defensive end, Tony had eight tackles and nine assists in a recent game. He runs a 4.5 40 and bench presses 375 pounds. A three-year starter, he was all region last year as a junior.

Steve Cleveland, 6-2, 215, has played well this year for Coach Barry Halladay at Minor. A defensive standout with great speed, Cleveland plays noseguard and middle linebacker when the defense sets up in a 4-3 alignment. He runs a 4.8 40 and bench presses 365 pounds. A three-year starter, he was all-metro and honorable mention all-state last year as a junior.

Darrel Crawford, 6-2, 218, is an excellent noseguard, according to his coach, Joe Dean at Fairhope. Crawford is playing both noseguard and linebacker and Dean feels he will be an outstanding linebacker one day. Crawford runs a 4.6 40 and benches 320 pounds. A three-year starter, he has 39 tackles, 13 assists, 2 caused fumbles, 2 quaterback sacks, and has blocked a punt for a touchdown thus far. He also throws the shotput and discus in track. He is also a very good student.

Steven Cross, 6-2, 200, has played well for Coach Jerry Wright at Brookwood. At outside linebacker, Cross has recorded 18 solos and 7 assists. As a three-year starter he has played center, guard, and tackle on offense before settling in at outside linebacker. He runs a 4.8 40 and benches 300. Cross is also a catcher on the baseball team.

Charles Dare, 6-5, 305, is a fine prospect at offensive guard according to Coach Bill Bacon at Enterprise. Dare possesses great physical talent and has worked hard in practice, said his coach. A three-year starter, Dare has played defensive tackle in previous years and was honorable mention all-state last year at offensive guard. He runs a 5.1 40 and benches 380. He is also a center on the basketball team where he has lettered three years.

Reginald Davidson, 6-3, 255, has done a great job for Coach Ed Reed at Central High School in Tuscaloosa. Davidson has graded out above 75 percent every game and graded out 90 percent against Jess Lanier. A three-year starter, Davidson has always been an offensive tackle.

Jim Davis, 6-3, 274, is having a great season according to Coach Johnson at Centre Cherokee. A two-year starter, he has graded in the 80s and 90s as offensive right tackle. On defense he has made several big plays for the team as defensive tackle. He runs the 40 in 5.0 and benches 365. Considered by his coach to be versatile and smart on the field, Davis is also an excellent student.

Greg Dill, 6-4, 240, has been a standout on both sides of the ball for Coach Bob Finley at Birmingham Berry. A three-year starter

Coach Bryant's Football Family

The Alabama "A" Club Foundation, chartered on the suggestion of Coach Bryant shortly after the death of Pat Trammell, is a nonprofit organization which provides assistance for the families of former Alabama players.

One of its fundraising projects was the publication last year of a book of the memories of many of Coach Bryant's former players, assistant coaches and other associates. Although the "A" Club ordered only those books sold prior to publication, the publisher expected the book to sell well and overprinted. Now the "A" Club has access to a limited number of these books.

In addition to the memories of many of Alabama's former football greats, the book includes dozens of photographs and a introductory biography of Coach Bryant.

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Jim Davis

Greg Dill

Reed Garner

Chris Gray

Martin Houston

Marc Hubble

at offensive guard, defensive tackle, and punter. Dill has been better on the offensive side of the ball according to Coach Finley. His best game this year came against Vestavia, a game in which he blocked on 52 of 53 snaps and graded in the high 90s. He is also a good pass rusher on defense and averages 39 yards a punt. Dill runs a 5.0 40 and benches 360. He has also wrestled and finished second in the state in the discus, losing the title by only a half-inch.

Darrin Elkins, 6-2, 278, has been having a productive year offensively for Coach Walden Tucker at Fayette County. A three-year starter at offensive tackle, Elkins has graded in the 80s all season long. His coach describes Elkins as a quiet leader. He runs a 5.5 40 and is a good student.

Reed Garner, 6-5, 267, had a good start against Emma Samson and is heading for a good year this season under Coach Conrad Nix at Albertville. A three-year starter at offensive and defensive tackle, Garner was an all-county selection last year. He also throws the shotput and discus in track. Garner runs a 5.1 40 and benches 365. He is a very capable student.

Chris Gray, 6-3, 235, has had some fine performances both ways this year for Coach Gerald Gann at Homewood. The two-year starter at tight end and defensive end has caught five passes, one for a touchdown and is considered an excellent blocker. On defense he is a strong pass rusher. Gray runs a 4.8 40 and benches 350. He is also averaging 35.5 yards a punt.

Will Horton, 6-1, 225, is having a real good year for Coach Garner Ezell at Athens. A two-year starter and three-year letterman as tight end and linebacker, Horton is the leading tackler on defense. He runs a 4.8 40 and benches 300.

Martin Houston, 5-11, 236, is having a great year for Coach Bobby Johnson at Centre Cherokee County. The inside linebacker (who also plays fullback, and has 683 yards rushing) averages 8.2 tackles a game in five games. A three-year starter, his coach says Houston has great instincts and is a smart player. He runs a 4.7 40 and benches 415. He is an excellent student.

Johnny Howard, 6-5, 255, has picked up the slack for Coach Carrol Cox at Jess Lanier. A three-year starter at offensive and defensive tackle, Howard has filled the shoes of departed all-state lineman Cedric Moore. He has graded in the low 90s this season on offense. Howard runs a 4.87 40 and benches 360. He was all-metro and all-county last year and he was honorable mention all-state. He is an outstanding student.

Marc Hubble, 6-3, 255, has played well for Coach Jack Wood at Hewitt-Trussville. A two-year starter as a strong side offensive tackle, Hubble came over to Hewitt-Trussville from Cathedral Christian so he could have a chance to play college ball. He runs a 5.2 40 and benches 340. He has not graded under 80 percent as of the first six games. He is a very good student.

Greg Jones, 6-5, 248, has gotten stronger every game for Coach Wyman Townsel at Etowah. He has consistently graded in the 80s as a three-year starter at offensive guard. He also plays goalline defensive tackle. Jones also plays first base and pitches on the baseball team. He benches 300.

Ed King, 6-4, 271, has played well every week for Coach Wayne Trawick at Central of Phenix City. A two-year starter at offensive tackle and this year a starter at guard, King has been averaging in the low 80s. Trawick's guards pull a lot in the winged-T formation, so King certainly has to be mobile. In almost every discussion of Alabama high school football prospects King is listed number one. He is also the center and captain on the basketball team and throws the discus and shot in track. He runs a 5.0 40 and benches 330. He is a very good student.

Kevin Lowery, 6-6, 285, is having a solid season for Coach Mike Parker at Jemison. The two-year starter at offensive tackle has just been moved to defensive tackle. He has graded 75-80 percent and has had a 100 percent grade this year. On defense he has had nine tackles and caused one fumble thus far. An opposing coach has described Lowery as quicker than former Tider Jon Hand. He runs a 5.2 40 and benches 300. He is a fine student.

Willie Marshall, 6-2, 225, has done well for Coach Jackie Ferguson at Hazlewood. A three-year starter at offensive guard and defensive tackle, Marshall has held his own against linemen who are much bigger than he. His coach feels he could be much bigger in college, possibly up to 250. He also throws the shot and discus in track. He was an all-state performer last year. Marshall runs a 4.9 40 and benches 320.

Kennedy Mitchell, 6-3, 295, is a standout for Coach Spence McCracken at Montgomery Lee. A two-year starter, Mitchell has 29 tackles and has held the defense together from the beginning of the season. Last year Mitchell was an all-city and honorable mention all-state. He also averages 8.0 rebounds as the center of the basketball team.

Chip Money, 6-4, 248, has progressed well after a slow start for Coach Don Chesteen at Geneva. A three-year starter at offensive and defensive tackle, Money has good potential and is considered stronger offensively by his coach. He was an all-conference selection as a junior. He also throws the discus and the shotput on a track team that won the state championship. He runs a 5.1 40 and benches 325. He is a good student.

Vann Moore, 6-3, 265, plays the strong side of the offensive line for Coach David Pitts at Guntersville. The offense runs 85-90 percent behind Moore, a two-year starter and three-year letterman at offensive tackle. He is also playing goalline defense this year. He has made all-county and all-area and was honorable mention all-state last year. He also throws the shot and discus in track and wrestles. Moore runs a 5.1 40 and benches 320. He is a good student.

Stanley Moss, 6-2, 215, is performing very well for his dad, Coach Stan Moss, at Bibb County. After an all-state year last season and most valuable linebacker award winner, Moss is putting together some good numbers this year. He has 6 receptions for 128 yards

Willie Marshall

Chip Money

Vann Moore

Keith Neighbors

Tony Pettaway

Troy Sanders

and is averaging 45.4 yards on punts so far this season. A four-year starter and letterman, Moss has graded 86 percent. He is also a four-year letterman at third base on the baseball team. His father played football and baseball for Alabama from 1965-68 and played professional baseball in the Boston organization. Stanley runs a 5.0 40 and benches 370. He is an excellent student.

Al Nash, 6-2, 215, is considered to be the best linebacker in Alabama by his coach, Carrol Cox at Jess Lanier. The two-year starter has done nothing but improve. Against Huffman, Nash had nine tackles in the first half alone. He is averaging 12 tackles and 4 assists per game this year. His coach says that Nash is also a super tight end and has great potential at that position. He was all-metro and all-county last year. Nash runs a 4.62 40 and benches 275.

Keith Neighbors, 6-2, 195, has done well on both sides of the ball, according to his coach, Greg Patterson at Huntsville. Neighbors has Alabama bloodlines. His father, Billy, was an All-America Tide tackle and brother Wes was one of the finest centers to wear a crimson jersey. Keith started for three years at linebacker and has been an offensive guard for two years before moving to center this year. He also alternates snapping for extra points and field goals. His coach says he has a real good knowledge of the game and averages 8-10 tackles from his linebacker position. He runs a 4.75 40 and is a good student.

Derrick Odom, 6-0, 210, has been a big play man for Coach Skipper Clements at Tuscaloosa Hillcrest. A three-year starter, Odom plays linebacker as well as running back. His coach feels he can get much better with another year of maturity. He was an all-state player last year as well as West Alabama Super 11 player. He also runs track. Odom runs a 4.6 40 and benches 400.

Melvin Owens, 6-3, 304, in his first year has done well according to Coach Jerry Stearns at Woodlawn. The first-year starter and two-year letterman has been opening big holes from his right tackle position. He runs a 5.5 40 and benches 300. He is also a very good student.

Tony Pettaway, 6-4, 255, is a hustler, according to Coach Berry Halladay at Minor. A two-year starter and three-year letterman, Pettaway plays defensive tackle and plays half the game at offensive tackle. He averages six tackles a game and has graded 80-85 percent most every game. The captain of the football team, Pettaway runs a 4.8 40 and benches 435.

Troy Sanders, 6-4, 260, has shown outstanding leadership for Coach Mack Wood at Elba. A three-year starter and letterman, Sanders plays both strong side tackle on offense and tackle on defense. His coach says he makes two or three big plays a game. Sanders runs a 5.2 40, benches 310, and squats over 500. He is a very good student.

Richard Shea, 6-4, 230, is a stalwart defensive player and solid offensive player for Coach Gene Ellison at Mountain Brook. A two-year starter, Shea has had a 17-tackle performance this year. He was an all-state selection last year as well as super all-county. Shea is also a one-year letterman at first base with a .340 batting average in baseball. He runs a 5.0 40. Shea is an excellent student.

David Stallworth, 6-2, 227, is having a good year as the defensive signal caller for Coach Don Jennings at Robertsdale. The three-year starter has had a dozen tackles several times throughout his career from his linebacker position. He is a devastating blocker as tight end and fullback on the offensive side of the ball. He recorded 12 tackles and 13 assists against Atmore. He was an all-county and all-conference selection last year. Stallworth runs a 4.8 40 and benches 350. He is an outstanding student and is president of his senior class.

Joe Stanley, 6-5, 285, has done well offensively and defensively for Coach Richard Bishop at Gadsden. The three-year starter has graded over 80 percent in every game this year at offensive right tackle. He has averaged eight tackles per game this year. He was an all-area and all-county selection last year. He is the starting center on the basketball team. He runs a 5.3 40 and bench presses 275. He is a good student.

Mike Stewart, 6-4, 280, is a leader by example according to his coach, Jim Ezell at Tanner High near Athens. The one-and-a-half year starter and two-year letterman plays both guard and tackle offensively and noseguard and tackle defensively. He also kicks extra points and field goals. Stewart's best performance is a 14-tackle, 12-assist game. With four minutes to go, he blocked a punt and recovered it for a touchdown in a 19-14 victory. He is a pitcher and first baseman for the baseball team and was second in the state in the shotput. He runs a 5.1 40 and benches 315.

Jacques Tapscott, 6-3 ½, 246, has been a consistent performer for Coach Don Woods at Hartselle. The three-year starter has graded a winner in every game both as an offensive guard and defensive end. His coach describes Tapscott as "a good boy and a real leader." He also throws the shotput and discus in track. He runs a 4.8 40 and benches 310.

Tim Tillman, 6-2, 240, is a hard-nosed player for Coach Curt Douglas at Theodore. The two-year starter has graded well as an offensive guard and defensive nose tackle. His best performance came against Blount when he graded 92 percent and recorded 9 tackles, 2 assists, and recovered a fumble. He runs a 5.0 40 and benches 300. He is a good student.

Dennis Truitt, 6-7, 280, is a hard worker in practice according to his coach, Tom Calvin at Austin in Decatur. The two-year starter and three-year letterman has played well and is in excellent shape according to his coach. Truitt plays both offensive and defensive tackle. He also throws the shotput in track. His coach states "He's the type of player who can go in the fourth quarter." He runs a 5.6 40 and benches 385. Truitt is an outstanding student.

Brent Welborn, 6-6, 235, is a very intelligent, solid player according to his coach, Buddy Anderson at Vestavia Hills. A three-

David Stallworth

Mike Stewart

year starter at tight end and defensive end. Welborn graded in the 90s three of his first five games this year. He graded 98 percent against Walker, which is the highest any lineman has ever graded for Vestavia Hills. Welborn was second team all-state last year as a junior. He is a three-year letterman in basketball and baseball as well. Welborn is a very good student.

Fernando Whitehurst, 6-6, 260, is a great football player according to his coach, Bill Bacon at Enterprise. A three-year starter he is one of the leading tacklers as the team's defensive tackle. Whitehurst is also a basketball player who clogs up the middle. He runs a 5.4 40 and benches 315.

George Wilson, 6-2, 240, has great center size according to his coach, Carrol Cox at Jess Lanier. A three-year starter at center and linebacker, Wilson has not graded below 88 percent this year on offense and has averaged six tackles and five assists on defense. His best game defensively came against Tuscaloosa Central, a game in which he had nine tackles and one intercepted pass. He was first team all-county and second team all-state last year. He is the son of former Tide running back Butch Wilson. As a first baseman in baseball, he batted .357 his sophomore year and .360 last year. He runs a 4.8 40 and benches 375. He is an excellent student.

Stan Young, 6-1, 205, is a sleeper according to his coach, Steve Saverese at Benjamin Russell in Alexander City. A three-year starter at linebacker, Young is one of the leading tacklers on defense. He was chosen 'Best of the Rest' by the *Birmingham News*. In his free time he works at a local restaurant. Young runs a 4.8 40 and benches 325. He makes good grades.

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Cage Prospects:

In Search Of Early Signees

by Kirk McNair

November signees can simplify the work of basketball recruiting

For some reason, the only NCAA sport allowing an early signing period for high school senior players is basketball. This year that early period is November 11-18, and Alabama Head Coach Wimp Sanderson is undoubtedly hoping that this year's early period is as helpful to his recruiting efforts as last year's was. In 1986 the Tide signed Bryant Lancaster of Valley of Fairfax, who turned out to be the outstanding player in Alabama; Melvin Cheatum of Winnsboro, Louisiana; and Marcus Campbell of Livingston. When the spring signees were added Bama was considered to have had one of the nation's outstanding basketball recruiting classes.

Robert Horry, a 6-9 center from Andalusia, is almost universally considered the state's top prospect. Horry, who turned 17 in August, averaged 23 points and 11 rebounds per game last year. His coach, Richard Robertson, has said Horry needs to get stronger.

Four other Alabama basketball prep seniors are considered first line prospects. In alphabetical order they are:

Terrence Lewis, a 6-5 wing player for Birmingham Ramsay, averaged 24 points per game last year. Recently Ramsay Coach Willie Scoggins, who has never been described as a friend of The University, said Alabama was using unethical recruiting methods in trying to lure Lewis. Sanderson not only denied the charges, but also said Alabama was no longer recruiting Lewis.

Kenneth Rice

Kenneth Rice is a 6-4½ guard for Coach Bob Harpe at Austin of Decatur. He is primarily a wing player, but can play the point. He averaged 12 points, 8 rebounds and 4 assists per game last year. His coach said he would sign early.

Stanley Rose is a 6-8 center at Leeds. He will probably not sign early as he has not yet qualified academically.

Marcus Webb, 6-8, 240, is a power forward for Coach John Bricken at Montgomery Sidney Lanier. He might have been listed on the earlier pages of this magazine as he was also considered a top football prospect prior to this year. He gave up football to concentrate on basketball. Last year he averaged 11.5 points, 10 rebounds and six blocked shots per game.

A handful of others are potential prospects. They include:

Tony Bolton, 6-6 forward, Oxford Trinity Christian; Tony Crawford, 6-2 guard, Birmingham Hayes; Reggie Dupree, 6-5 forward Huntsville Butler; Frank Henderson, 6-4 guard, Birmingham Ramsay; Blake Hendrick, 6-5 guard, Gadsden Southside; Steve Hereford, 6-1 guard, Hazel Green; John Jerkins, 6-5 center, Robertsdale; Charles Moore, 6-7 center, Birmingham Woodlawn; David Williams, 6-6 forward, Selma Southside; and Earnest Young, 6-7 forward, Birmingham Jones Valley.

Among out-of-staters who have been mentioned as considering Alabama (or vice versa) is 6-8, 220-pound forward/center Anthony Lawrence of Lakewood High in St. Petersburg, Florida. His coach, Daniel Wright, said he would sign with Alabama in the early signing period. Last year he averaged 15.1 points and 7.2 rebounds per game and led his team in blocked shots. He was selected for Team Florida, an amatuer squad of the state's top prep stars, last summer but did not participate in order to attend summer school. His coach said he expected him to qualify.

Two Georgians have been mentioned with Bama. Arlando Bennett is a 6-10, 210-pound center from Danielsville. He averaged 16 points (on a team with balanced scoring) and 12 rebounds per game and blocked 104 shots for Coach Charles Wilkes last year. He has played basketball for only three years. Stacey Williams is a 6-9, 235-pounder who averaged 17 points and 14 rebounds as a junior for Coach Danny Botright at Bacon County High in Alma. *Basketball Times* ranked him the number four big man in the nation.

The Tide has also been mentioned with two Mississippians, 6-2 point guard Litteral Green of Moss Point, and 6-5 wing player Ray Reed of Shannon.

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Tommy Cole:

Mind Over Matter

by Donald F. Staffo

Last signee of 1984 has proved worthy addition to Bama defense

Almost two months after the signing date in 1984, then Alabama Head Coach Ray Perkins could look at his list of additions and see it was sadly lacking in highly-recruited linemen. He could also see the list of his top rival's signees, Auburn having enticed the likes of Tracy Rocker, Ron Stallworth, Nate Hill, Stacy Dunn, Rodney Garner and on and on. That was probably why Perkins decided to take a chance on Tommy Cole of Walker High School in Jasper.

It's not like Cole was a complete unknown. He was an all-state performer as a center and defensive tackle for Coach David Campbell at Walker, a three-year starter and twice his team's most valuable player. He averaged almost 20 tackles per game as a senior. But he was still just 6-1, 244.

Four years later Cole has made the most of his opportunity, moving into a starting role at defensive tackle. He's still no giant, 6-2, 250, but he's much stronger and quicker than when he arrived in 1984.

Cole admits he had mixed emotions upon reaching The Capstone as Bama's last signee. "That made me feel I had something to prove," he recalls. "I felt that the coaches thought that I really couldn't play here. And," he adds, "when I got here and saw the size of some of the players, I didn't think I could either. But I kept working, put my mind to it, and I finally got my chance."

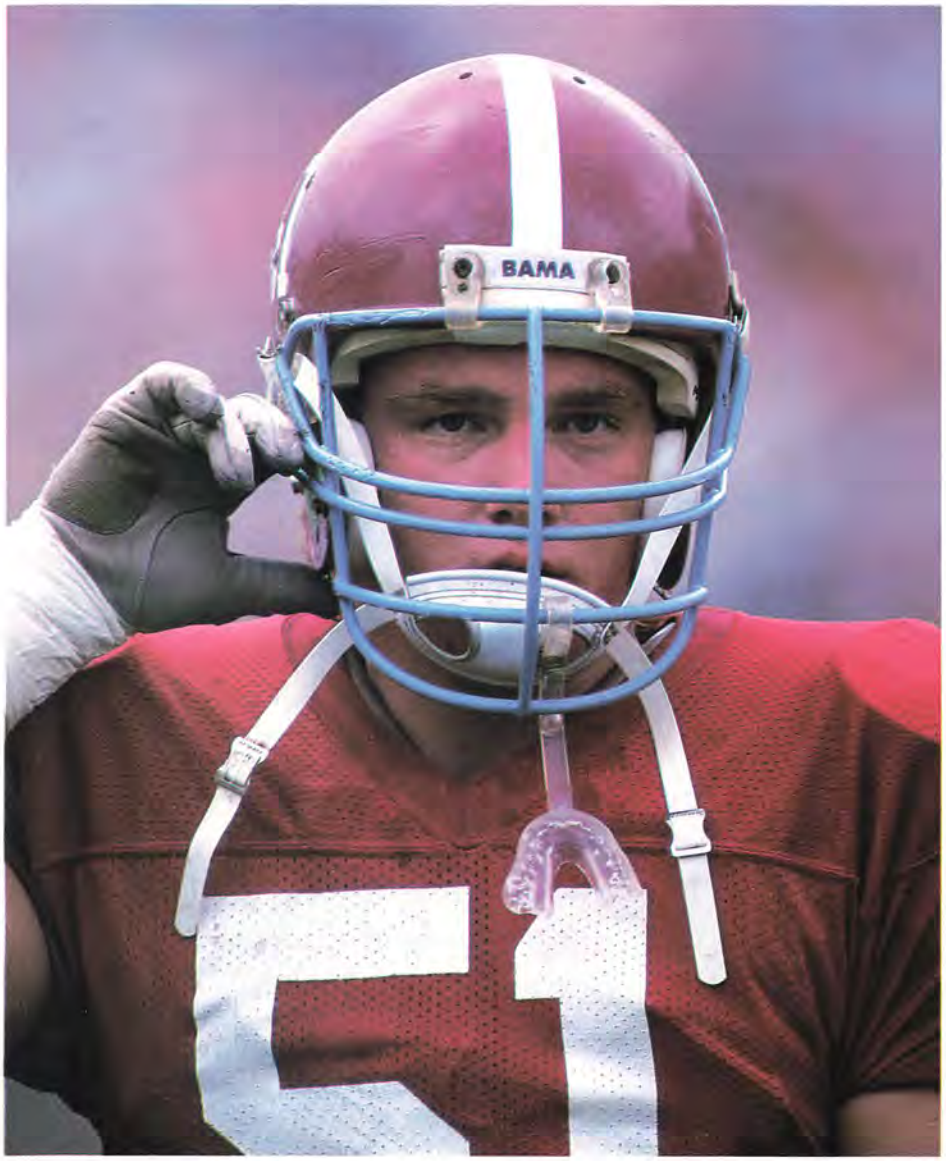
After being redshirted in 1984, he began his playing career in 1985 as a noseguard, working behind eventual All-Southeastern Conference performer Curt Jarvis. He saw duty in nine games that year, making nine tackles (seven solo), including one behind the line of scrimmage. But his biggest play that year was a fumble recovery in Bama's 25-23 victory over Auburn. "As a redshirt freshman I was disappointed that I didn't get much playing time, but I just kept working at it," said Cole. "That was the low point."

The tragic death of Willie Ryles prior to the 1986 season resulted in Cole being moved to defensive tackle, where Alabama had lost Jon Hand, Larry Roberts and Brent Sowell to graduation the previous year. Cole is quick to note that "No one wants to get his chance that way," but it was his opportunity and he took advantage of it.

Cole became a regular in the three-man rotation of tackles, including starting the Southern Miss and Notre Dame games. He played in 12 of Bama's games in that 10-3 season, although he was slowed in the last half of the year after injuring his right knee against the Fighting Irish. Nevertheless, he turned in 19 tackles (11 solo), including one for a two-yard loss and one quarterback sack, recovered a fumble, and broke up one pass.

The season was a confidence-builder for him, and with three defensive down linemen (Jarvis, Cliff Thomas and Derrick Slaughter) graduating for the second consecutive year he looked forward to earning an outright first team job in the spring. But he soon had those hopes damaged.

Bama's new head coach, Bill Curry, had



Tide defensive tackle Tommy Cole is convinced that not many people thought he could make it as a Crimson Tide football player, but he's earned his scholarship as a starter. Barry Fikes Photo

brought almost an entirely new staff to Tuscaloosa, and Cole wanted to show what he could do in spring training. However, four days into drills he reinjured his knee, had to have an artroscopic repair, and missed the remainder of drills. "I thought that hurt me because we had a new coaching staff and they really didn't have a chance to see me practice or play," said Cole. "I knew they had film on me, but I felt they wanted to see for themselves in practice, and I couldn't show them. And I didn't know what they expected of me."

That's not exactly true. Cole knew that Curry expected him to report back in shape, able to run four 440-yard laps, all under 85 seconds. He made the first three, but missed the final one by nearly 10 seconds.

That landed him in Curry's doghouse. To get out, he and the others who had come up short got a little longer work. After each workout, morning and afternoon, the head coach called for "My nonqualifiers," and Cole and company got an extra dose of wind sprints and agility drills. It amounted to about 10 extra hours of running, one hour per second he was late on his fourth 440. "That was my fault," Cole admits. "Coach Curry warned us about it in the summer, so it wasn't something we didn't know about."

Cole paid the price without complaining, but realizes now his lack of conditioning put him behind the others vying for a starting job. He didn't earn that berth until after the Tide's first game-type scrimmage at Birmingham's Legion Field.

Once in shape, Cole began contributing. He had seven tackles, five solo, in Bama's opener against Southern Miss. Against Penn State he turned in eight tackles, including one behind the line of scrimmage, and was rewarded with the "Bama Pride" designation Tide coaches give those players who perform as expected.

Cole said the Penn State game is the highlight of his Bama career thus far "because they were the defending national champions and it was a big game for us." But, he adds, he'll always cherish the thought that "I started the first three games for Coach Curry his first year here."

Curry spoke to the Tuscaloosa Quarterback Club following the Southern Miss game and told the group "Tommy Cole doesn't like to run or condition himself, but he sure likes to play football. I'm sure he still hates me (for the extra conditioning work), but he's in shape now and playing outstanding football for us."

Unfortunately, injuries are a part of football, and Cole was soon sidelined again. Against Florida he hyperextended his right knee. "Anthony Smith was ready to sack Kerwin Bell (the Gator quarterback) and I jumped over the pile to keep from getting a penalty," he explained. "I came down with my leg straight out in front of me." Cole missed the rest of that contest, as well as the Vanderbilt and Southwestern Louisiana games. When he got back against Memphis State he was one of the few bright spots on an otherwise dismal day, turning in five unassisted tackles (one for a seven-yard loss), helping on another, and recovering a fumble. He was also a big part of Bama's win over Tennessee, turning in five solo tackles and recovering a fumble that led to a Tide field goal.

He considers himself more than 85 percent recovered and getting better, good news considering the November challenge facing Bama. The knee still hurts, he said, "but it's something I have to learn to play with and deal with." He has a regular workout regimen supervised by Strength Coach Rich Wingo as he attempts to rehabilitate the knee.

Football is often compared to war. Cole says that his favorite movie is *Platoon*, a story of the Vietnam war. "It makes you realize what people who have been to war have been through," he said. "You're fighting for your life and you never know when some guy is going to sneak up behind you and stab you in the back. In combat you know there's somebody beside you helping you. There will always be a time in your life when you'll need help from somebody, no matter who you are. What those guys went through is a lot tougher than playing football. Some people compare football to war, but you can't. Football is fun, not life and death where you're on pins and needles all the time."

Cole thinks that both he and Alabama's defensive front have been a pleasant surprise this year. For the second straight year the defensive line was considered a weak point in preseason assessments of the Tide, but the play of that front has been reasonably good. "I think we may have surprised some people by the way we've played," said Cole. "Before I got hurt I had to be pleased with how I played. I felt up until then I was way ahead of where I was last year."

But, he knows, it's what you do today, not what you did yesterday, that matters. And for someone who has fought as hard as Tommy Cole has to get where he is today, it obviously matters.

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Wisdom Finds A Home

by Donald F. Staffo

A defensive man and a Georgian, Chip Wisdom coaches Tide runners

Chip Wisdom spent his playing career and much of his coaching career with the defense, but now tutors Alabama's running backs. Barry Fikes Photo

When Bill Curry took over as Alabama's head football coach in January, much of the focus was on the fact that he wasn't keeping any coaches with Crimson Tide ties. (Later room was made for Jim Fuller.) Perhaps it should have been noted that not only was Curry willing to leave his alma mater, but that many members of his new staff have ties to Bama rivals, and were also anxious to work their way into the Alabama Family.

Chip Wisdom certainly has Georgia ties. The 37-year-old coach of Alabama running backs was a two-time All-Southeastern Conference linebacker for the Bulldogs and coached there for nine years under Vince Dooley. During that time the Junkyard Dogs, as the Georgia defenders became known, won the national championship (1980), two SEC titles, and earned six bowl bids. In short, Wisdom was associated with his alma mater during its glory years.

But make no mistake about it. Wisdom, despite Georgia's success in the not-too-distant past, knows where football is played at its best. "I love Georgia and I love the SEC," he says, "but Alabama has always been the school people think of when they think of the SEC. When you look at the top school in the SEC year-in and year-out, it's The University of Alabama. They've won the most SEC championships (18 to runnerup Georgia's 10) and the most national championships (six with no other SEC team having more than one).

"Alabama just has the tradition and reputation, and gets the most exposure nationally."

In short, he says, "It feels great being at Alabama. It's what an assistant coach strives to do, to become part of a tremendous program. And Alabama has one of the great ones in America."

So there's no secret why Curry was willing to leave his alma mater and why all of his staff wanted to come with him. However, that doesn't explain every move Wisdom has made.

Wisdom was at Arizona State coaching linebackers when he had an opportunity to join the Georgia Tech staff as a running back coach in 1985. "Sometimes you make a decision (to move) because of the school, but that's not why I went to Georgia Tech, especially having played at Georgia," he said. "I went there to join Bill Curry. I knew him, liked him, and liked what he was doing. I was aware of his reputation as a player and as a person, and I liked the direction he was taking his program. That's the main reason I went there, to coach with Bill Curry."

The move to Tech also gave him an opportunity to be on the other side of the football, coaching offense after 11 years on defense. "I felt it was time to expand my knowledge of the game," he said. Going from defense to offense (or vice versa) "is more interchangeable than people may think," he said. "The only difference is the language, communication, and symbols. Defense is really recognition and reaction. In order to coach defense you have to understand and break down the offense."

Through the years he kept track of the offenses that had been the most trouble to defense. "I recorded the offenses that were successful and difficult to stop, so I knew what offenses were hard to defense," he said. "I just look at it from a different perspective now."

Finally, the move to Tech was an opportunity to return to the South.

"It's not the bricks, mortar and ivy on the walls that makes a program, here or anywhere else. It's the people inside the buildings that count. You can't just put a crimson helmet on and then go out and expect to beat anyone. It's the people inside those helmets and the people who lead them that make the difference."

Wisdom said Curry has "no 'pride of authorship' on his staff. There is no least or greatest among the coaches. We just have various assignments and responsibilities, but it's a singleness of purpose we're striving for.

It's a team effort where no one gets more credit than anyone else. We're judged and evaluated on what kind of football team we produce."

Wisdom was raised in Atlanta, where he said he grew up watching Georgia Tech, including Bill Curry (who is eight years older) as a player. "I went to Georgia because the timing was right," he said. "Bobby Dodd was gone at Tech and Georgia Tech no longer had the program it had had under him. And they were no longer in the SEC. Vince Dooley had just taken over at Georgia. I put a lot of importance on the leadership of a program.

"I used to kid Coach Curry because he grew up in Athens, his father went to Georgia, and he ended up at Tech. I grew up in Atlanta, but went to Georgia."

That background was part of his reason for wanting to return to the South. "From a personal and career standpoint, this is where I needed to be," he said. "The Pac-10 was a great experience and I learned a great deal, but for my long range future that's not where I wanted to be."

In addition to his stints at Georgia (where he was freshman coach in 1972-73, linebacker coach the last seven years) and Arizona State, Wisdom also served as defensive coordinator at Memphis State under Rex Dockery, who was killed in an airplane crash. At Georgia he recruitied and/or coached All-Americas Scott Woerner, Freddie Gilbert, Peter Anderson and Ben Zambiasi. At Arizona State he coached All-America Brian Noble. At Memphis State his players included Tim Harris and Derrick Burroughs, both first round professional draft choices. In 1983 Memphis State led the nation in turnover margin en route to their only winning season in a decade.

Wisdom says that he's gained a lot from the coaches he has worked with: from Dooley, the importance of discipline, fundamentals, being sound in all phases of the game, and a strong will; from Georgia's former defensive coordinator Erk Russell, now head coach at Georgia Southern, the value of a good idea becoming a great idea by being made simpler; from Dockery, the value of being positive in the face of adversity, as well as perseverance; and from Darryl Rogers at Arizona State, how critical it is to plan ahead.

At Alabama Wisdom has the opportunity to coach a Heisman Trophy candidate in Bobby Humphrey. "Bobby is a gifted and talented athlete who is a tremendously hard worker and an intense competitor who is always striving to become better," said Wisdom. "As his coach, I don't know of any weakness that he has. He reminds me a lot of (Georgia Heisman Trophy winner) Herschel Walker. It would be a disservice to both of them to try to compare them, but all champions have certain things. It's not just talent. It's usually a lot more than that. They have discipline, character, standards and an almost charismatic personality which makes them leaders. They are consistent in that they succeed day-in and day-out."

It doesn't end with Humphrey, of course. Wisdom is also pleased with tailbacks Kerry Goode and David Casteal and fullbacks Doug Allen and Bo Wright. "They are the finest group of position players I've ever worked with," he said. "They are winners, a combination of talented athletes and quality people. That's a statement of congratulations to Ray Perkins, who recruited them. I'm very fortunate to have the opportunity to coach them."

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Clay Whitehurst:

He's More Than Meets The Eye

by Kirk McNair

Senior wide receiver has given all he has to Tide success

So you don't think of Clay Whitehurst as a record-setting pass receiver, huh? Well, when Mike Shula erased such names as Bart Starr, Joe Namath, Steve Sloan and Kenny Stabler from the Alabama record book against Memphis State in 1985 with four touchdown passes, who do you think caught the record-breaking fourth one? And when Shula eased Jeff Rutledge from the top of the list of career touchdown passes with his 31st in the first quarter in Knoxville last year, take a wild guess at who the receiver was.

And although it wasn't a record (that came this year in the Tennessee game), the longest pass play Bama had in nearly a three-year period was a 57-yarder in the Penn State game from Bobby Humphrey to

(fill in the blank)

"I might be the answer to an Alabama trivia question someday," says Whitehurst with a laugh of his part in Shula's records. The touchdown catch against Memphis State in 1985 was Whitehurst's first for the Tide, while going into this season he considered the 1986 grab against Tennessee his most memorable. That one came in the first few minutes of the first quarter as Bama built an insurmountable lead in a 56-28 smoking of the Vols.

Three non-scoring pass receptions this season also stand out. Humphrey's halfback pass in University Park caught Penn State napping. Although Whitehurst had to wait on the toss, probably costing him a chance to take it all the way to the end zone, he was able to get it down to the goalline and set up a touchdown in the Tide's big nationally-televised win over the Lions. The other one came late in the game against Vanderbilt as Bama found itself facing a tie with the Commodores in Nashville. However, the Tide zipped to a final touchdown in that 30-23 victory. One of the big plays in that final march was Vince Sutton's pass to Whitehurst over the middle. And among his team-leading five catches for 92 yards in this year's upset of Tennessee was a 43-yarder to set up a Bama touchdown.

"I didn't think about them from a personal standpoint at the time, but later you think about that," said Whitehurst. "At Penn State it was still early and so it was just important to getting another score. At Vanderbilt I just thought about it being important that we keep our drive going. Later I was pretty happy about them."

He's had big receptions on both of his trips to Vanderbilt, which stand out to him since he's from Nashville. Which leads to another possible record Whitehurst has: The prospect who most wanted to go to Alabama who almost didn't get a scholarship offer because of confusion.

Whitehurst was a four-sport prep athlete. He began his career at Franklin High School, but when a new school—Brentwood High School—was opened closer to his home, he transferred at the beginning of his junior year. He had been an Alabama fan for years, going back to when one of his coaches (Ron Clark, who had played briefly at Alabama) had Coach Paul Bryant sent Whitehurst a letter. His favorite Tide players were Major Ogilvie (Whitehurst was primarily a running back in high school) and Joey Jones.

"I kind of recruited myself," said Whitehurst, an all-state performer who scored 22 touchdowns as a senior, including back-to-back five-touchdown games. "I was being recruited, but not by Alabama. One of my coaches was Gerald Johnson, who had coached E.J. Junior (former Tide defensive end from Nashville) and who had some contacts at Alabama and got in touch with some

One of the best recruiting jobs done was the one Clay Whitehurst did for himself in getting to Alabama. In the four years he's been a Crimson Tide receiver he has been a fine one. Barry Fikes Photo

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people. Also, my father had some friends who were involved in recruiting for Alabama (no longer legal under NCAA rules). They got in touch with Alabama to tell them about me and were told that Alabama was recruiting me.

"The problem is, they were recruiting a player at Brentwood Academy (Greg Johnson, who signed with Penn State, but later left the Lions), not Brentwood High School. Finally, we sent some film to Coach Donahue (Ken Donahue, who is now Tennessee's defensive coordinator). Three days later they offered me a scholarship and I accepted it."

Whitehurst's position coach, Tommy Bowden, is very pleased with Clay's performance. "I think he's done everything we've asked him to do," said Bowden. "He maxes out on his ability, makes the best of what he's got.

"He's a very intelligent receiver who has good technique. He has the intensity and aggressiveness to be a good blocker. And he's got good speed—not Pierre Goode speed, but good enough to be a fine wide receiver at this level of football."

Although Whitehurst started the season at flanker, he has since moved to split end, in part because of the hand injuries that have led to Alabama seeking a hardship redshirt year for Greg Payne. Marco Battle moved up to take Whitehurst's spot at flanker.

"We had no hesitation about playing him at either position," said Bowden. "Some people easily get a grasp of both positions, and he did."

Whitehurst is pleased to be at split end. "In our offense, the split end is a little more likely to get the football," he said. "We've been throwing a lot to our running backs, but I think we'll start to get it downfield more as the season goes on. That's primarily a matter of our quarterbacks getting experience. The main thing, though, is just being out there no matter where I am." Whitehurst proved his willingness to be anywhere when he took a brief fling at strong safety as a sophomore in 1985, but he was soon back at his wideout position.

Bowden knew about Whitehurst primarily "by word of mouth" prior to this fall. That's because the senior missed spring training in order to play baseball. "I had some concerns about it because we had a new system, new terminology and a new staff," said Bowden. "But I also knew about his work habits and ability and so I wasn't surprised when he came in ready to go this fall."

Whitehurst decided midway through last fall that he'd like to play baseball in the spring, although he didn't approach Bama Head Coach Ray Perkins about it "because I didn't want him thinking I was thinking about anything but football," said Whitehurst. At the end of the regular season he spoke to his head coach, who gave him the go-ahead to miss spring training and play baseball.

Then came the coaching change. "I went to Coach Curry and told him of my conversation with Coach Perkins," Whitehurst said. "He told me that he would let me go ahead with my plans for baseball because, one, he would honor any commitment Coach Perkins had made, and, two, because he had seen me play, which made me feel good."

Although Whitehurst did spend the spring with the baseball team (he hit .304), he had a way of keeping up with football developments. "Gene Newberry is my roommate and he kept me up to date on what the offense was doing," said Whitehurst. "Although I hadn't worked out under the coaches, I was familiar with the plays and terminology."

Whitehurst also reported back in good shape. Although official Alabama rosters have listed him as 6-1, 180 since his arrival, he was actually 190 through his first three seasons. However, over the summer he decided to diet and got down to his program weight. "I wanted to improve my speed and quickness and I think I did that, as well as improving my stamina," he said. "And I think I block just as well."

He thinks during his Tide career he has improved in virtually every aspect—catching the football, blocking, running routes, reading defenses. "But any athlete in any sport will tell you he's got room for improvement," said Whitehurst. "If he doesn't think so, he'd better check himself." He thinks if he had to pick just one area in which he had made the most improvement it would be "recognizing and running routes against man coverage. Against zone, you just find the openings and run into them, but against man you have to run a very precise route. We worked on man coverage a lot in the spring because we were doing a lot of if on defense," he said. "But we hit Southern Miss for that quick TD against man and we've seen less and less of it. All of our receivers are good against man coverage and when someone sees one of us beating it to get wide open it scares them."

Whitehurst wishes that Alabama had been more pass-oriented during his career, but understands "when you have guys like Kerry Goode and Bobby Humphrey and Gene Jelks, you're going to run the football. Any wide receiver would like to be on a team that throws the ball 40 times a game like Vandy or Duke, but it's a lot more important to win. That's what makes every player happy."

Last year he caught only four passes in regular season play as he played most of the year behind Greg Richardson and Al Bell. However, he also had two rushes for 64 yards, including a 41-yard touchdown against Mississippi State. As a sophomore he had 12 catches for 149 yards and one touchdown and added another touchdown reception in Bama's 24-3 win over Southern Cal in the Aloha Bowl. As a freshman he had 10 catches for 114 yards. However, throughout his Alabama career it has not been the length or number of his receptions that has caught the fancy of Tide fans and coaches; it has been his courage in going across the middle, the toughest assignment a receiver has.

One reason Whitehurst liked Alabama was academics, even way back in 1984. He picked The Capstone in part for its business school, and next summer he'll complete his graduation requirements in marketing management. Although he may not follow in his father's footsteps as a finanacial advisor, he wouldn't mind going back to Nashville to work in either insurance or real estate.

Before he tries his hand at the business world, though, he'd like to give professional football a shot. "I know I haven't caught a lot of passes, but I'd like a chance to try it," he said.

That's one reason he may pass up baseball this year, but another is his impending change in marital status. This spring he'll marry Christa James, a Bama coed from Birmingham.

Whitehurst has his professional football heroes. He likes Mike Renfroe of the Dallas Cowboys, who wears number 87, and Steve Largent of the Seattle Seahawks. "It's interesting to see a guy like Largent," said Whitehurst. "He doesn't have great speed, but he gets open and catches the ball, and that's the name of the game. He gives hope to guys like me."

When Whitehurst's playing career is over he has no doubt that he will be an Alabama football fan, as he was before his Crimson Tide career. He's already thinking about Bama's 1988 team. "Craig Sanderson is going to be a great one," he said of the freshman wide receiver who is being redshirted this year after under going knee surgery. "And, of course, Greg Payne (also being redshirted) and Marco Battle will be back, Pierre Goode is really coming on, and Lamonde Russell and Troy Secrist are doing good things.

"This program has been a big part of my life and I've really loved going to school here. It's been a great time, and I know that anytime I can get to an Alabama football game, I'll be there."

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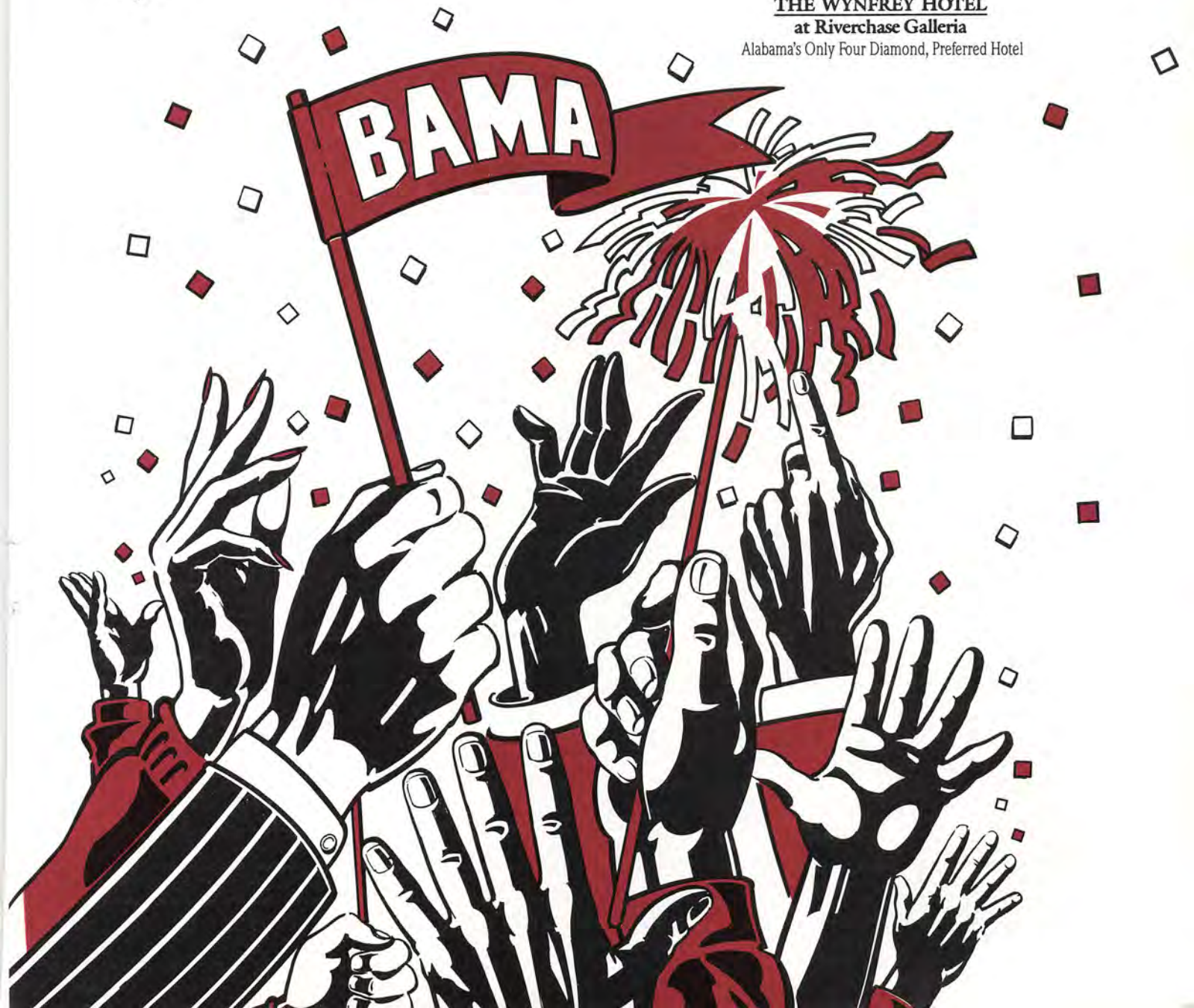

Swimming & Diving Outlook:

Tide Seeks Perfection

by Brian Gordon

An even stronger team may have trouble equaling 1987 achievements

Scarcely 48 hours had passed since the Alabama's men's swimming and diving team had shocked Southeastern Conference swimming circles by winning the 1987 league championship, but Bama Head Coach Don Gambril wasn't celebrating. He was hard at work. Working towards the upcoming NCAA championships? Upgrading recruiting efforts? Yes to both. But he was also looking ahead to the 1988 conference championships, rescoring the just completed meet with adjustments for graduation and expected newcomers.

"Last year I thought we swam the perfect meet," said Gambril. "We had 17 swimmers and divers participating and each one scored in at least one event. We will need a similar performance to even be in a position to challenge this year, even though we may have a stronger and more balanced team."

What's that, coach? A better team and you're worried about being in position to challenge. Gambril explains: "LSU lost only 18 points from last year's team that finished about 20 points behind us. They would be considered the favorite on that alone, but they have also added several fine swimmers to their squad. Florida is always tough. They didn't swim a good meet last year, and I'm sure they're working to correct that. On paper, Auburn returns as many points as anyone, but Tennessee, along with LSU, came within an eyelash of winning last year and will be equally tough this year." One needs to respect the Vols, who will host the meet and who will be bidding farewell to longtime coach Ray Bussard, who has announced this is his last season. "To say that he'll pull out all the stops in an effort to win is an understatement," said Gambril.

Leading the Alabama swimming and diving teams in 1988 are (left to right) seniors Bruce Gennari of Birmingham, Jennifer Kirrstetter of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Rob Kite of Boca Raton, Florida.

Barry Fikes Photo

So where does that leave the Tide? Alabama was hard hit by graduation, losing backstroker Ricardo Adalbe, a four-year All-America; All-America breaststroker Enrique Romero; individual medleyist and distance freestyler Ricardo Viddivia; freestyler Mike Davidson; and divers Perry White and Toby Karlsson. Additionally, Peter Berndt, a world-ranked performer, was declared ineligible by the NCAA due to his age.

The Tide's strength and success this year will rest with its youth. Of the 21 men on the roster, 16 are either freshmen or sophomores. "We've had two good recruiting years back-to-back and have increased our squad size in terms of versatility and depth and it will be helpful," said Gambril.

In the backstroke this year Alabama will be led by sophomore Eric White, a conference finalist last year. He is joined by freshmen David Meck, a national qualifier, and Joel Hagler. The Tide's breaststroke will continue to be strong with sophomores Chris McDaniels, an All-America last year, and Jim Neidhoefer.

The butterfly could be one of Bama's strongest events. Rob Kite, one of two Tide seniors, is the leader with junior Tony Portela, sophomores Jim Askervold and Craig Ammon and newcomer Clayton Page.

Alabama has always had strong freestylers and this year should be no exception. Senior Bruce Gennari is joined by juniors Frank Iacono, a former All-America and SEC champion who redshirted last year, and Mark Nieuwenhuis, and incoming freshmen Jon Olsen, Jon Melton, Mark Colwill, Clint Huddleston and James Cramer.

The Tide lost not only White, the SEC Diver of the Year, and Karlsson from the diving events, but also their coach, two-time SEC coach of the year Mike Finneran, who resigned in August to enter private business. He has been replaced by Pat Greenwell from Clemson. He will tutor sophomore Scott Pomerleau, a finalist in two events last year, and freshman Mark Rourke.

As always, Alabama will swim a very competitive schedule.

On the distaff side all is not so bright. Alabama's women's team has just 17

members and, like the men a few years ago, will be hurt by a lack of depth against stronger teams.

"We had a good recruiting year last year," said Gambril. "But instead of bringing in five girls, we needed to sign nine or ten. We are going to be hurt when we go up against teams with strong, deep squads. We have quality in the pool, just not a lot of depth."

Women's swimming in the SEC has become just as competitive as men's. Last year the Tide women swam just as well as the Bama men and had to work extremely hard the last night to overtake LSU for third place. "They were a better team than us," said Gambril. "We just swam better." This year the Tide might not be as fortunate in the SEC. "Florida may have its strongest squad since Tracy Caulkins was there and Georgia will contend with them," said Gambril. "Tennessee might have the most improved team in the conference again this year and LSU is extremely talented. On paper, Alabama and Auburn will fight for fifth, but I'm not ready to accept that. We're certainly going to try to do better."

In the backstroke Alabama features sophomore Jennifer Lowe and freshman Lisa Raines. Raines is a multi-talented swimmer who can also swim individual medley and freestyle. Defending conference champion Charlotte Brock returns for her junior year in the breaststroke. She will be joined by sophomore Kelly Purcell and freshman Jennifer Joy.

Senior Jennifer Kirrstetter, a veteran freestyler and butterflyer, leads the fly contingent. She's joined by freshmen Melanie Wirtner and Susan Bartholomew.

In the freestyle events juniors Anita Harrison and Pernille Nimb, sophomores Katie Williams and Jamie Gardner and freshman Diane Babec will be competitive.

Greenwell's divers are again strong for the women. Senior Tami Merrill, junior Leigh Ann Fleshman and sophomore Janna Wiegold are all veteran conference divers.

So the grind continues in Alabama's Aquatic Center. Lap after lap, dive after dive, both teams are striving to reach full potential. The goals of the teams, a repeat conference championship for the men and a first division finish for the women, will be difficult to attain, but if work being done in practice pays off, one must think the Tide will be in contention the last night of the SEC Championships in Knoxville.

Editor's Note: Brian Gordon, an Alabama assistant swimming coach for six years who has covered the sport for **'BAMA**, *has accepted the job of head coach at Bowling Green.*

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Women's Athletics:

The Song Is Upbeat

by Becky Hopf

The women's basketball team is still young, but it is also talented

The practice of remaking old songs has been a popular one in the music industry, and Alabama Head Women's Basketball Coach Lois Myers can probably identify with it.

Tide followers may be singing the blues over having such a youthful squad again this year, but at least the tempo should pick up. For instance, Bama has doubled its number of seniors this year, what if it is only a matter of going from one to two. Nevertheless, this year's Alabama squad should, at the very least, be a team of promise. It's still predominantly sophomores and freshmen, but it has its share of talented players.

"The team is very young," admits Myers. "Of 14 people on the team only three are older than sophomore. We will have a lot of inexperienced freshmen playing key roles. The questions we will have to answser this season are: How fast can they learn? How mentally tough are they? How much do they want to win?

"Personally, I am very excited about this year. it's exciting to have young talent, raw talent that you can watch grow. There's not much pressure on us this year because of our youth. Our goal is to improve with every game and to build a solid base for our future."

Last year Alabama was 19-10, a very respectable record under most circumstances. But the Southeastern Conference is far and away the most dominant in the nation in women's basketball, making Bama a bottom division outfit even with a winning mark.

This year the Tide is banking on the talents of two of its veterans, 5-5 senior guard Shelly Pyles and 5-6 junior guard Tracey Rutledge. Pyles set an Alabama record for single season assists last year, dishing out 167, and for steals with 89.

Rutledge is the Tide's leading returning scorer as she averaged 16 points per game last year. She also handed out 92 assists and led the team in blocked shots with 10. Additionally she was Bama's top free throw shooter last year, hitting 77 percent. Rutledge was chosen for the United States team that won the silver medal in last summer's Olympic Sports Festival games.

Tina Moore, a parttime starter at forward last year, will also be relied on for her leadership. The 5-7 senior averaged 4.2 points per game in her first season at Bama last year after playing junior college basketball.

"Shelly, Tracey and Tina are expected to supply a lot of leadership, both on and off the court this year," said Myers. "They have a lot of experience and they are seasoned players. They know that score and what needs to be done. They'll be setting the tone on the practice court and in our games."

They are joined by five sophomores and six freshmen. The sophomore contingent is led by Sissy Braden, a 5-11 forward. Braden was the Tide's fourth-leading scorer her rookie season as she averaged 8 points and 4.2 rebounds per game. Fellow sophomores Laura Heard (5-9 forward, who averaged 5.1 points and 3.8 rebounds last year), Julie Beaty (5-7 guard), Johna Williams (5-10 forward) and Stephanie Meier (5-9 forward) also return.

The freshman class, though untested in collegiate waters, is promising. Signees include 6-3 forward Tracy Bowden, an all-state performer from Rush Springs, Oklahoma; Michelle Smith, 6-2 center from Tuscaloosa, a prep All-America; Laura Vaughn, 6-1 forward/center from Kingsport, Tennessee, the Upper East Tennessee Player of the Year; and Kendra Willis, a 6-0 forward/center from Griffin, Georgia, who was all-state and Academic All-America.

"This group has already shown they will work hard," said Myers. "That shows me they have a strong amount of individual pride and high standards for themselves, which are the ingredients for a winner."

Myers has toughened up the schedule for her team this year. "We dropped a lot of the smaller schools we ordinarily play because our team is so young we feel we have to play some teams the caliber of what we'll find in the SEC," she said. "We are not going to have the luxury of bringing the players into this slowly."

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The Run In The Mud

by Mark A. Morrison

Dixon's "block" cleared way for Alabama's 1967 win over Auburn

Former Alabama quarterback Kenny "Snake" Stabler is remembered for a lot of things in his Crimson Tide career, not the least of which was his 47-yard run through the mud to beat Auburn, 7-3, in 1967. University of Alabama Photo

Among things fans and players both remember about the 1967 Alabama-Auburn game is the weatherman knew his business when prior to the game he called for a 100 per cent chance of precipitation.

And just as predicted the wet stuff fell on cue. Not only did heavy rains cause flooding but tornadoes raked the Heart of Dixie and a twister even brushed two suburbs near Birmingham's Legion Field.

But even Mother Nature couldn't spoil this party. Although not a spectator's dream, more than 71,200 showed up and endured the fierce downpour and mudfest. When it was all over, the crowd still intact, the amphibious Crimson Tide soaked up a controversial 7-3 win over an Auburn team that had carried the fight to the Tide for nearly 50 minutes and was looming as a 3-0 winner.

Like most Iron Bowl battles, this was a game to remember.

It had all the ingredients a heralded Alabama-Auburn contest is supposed to have—big names, big hits and big plays. But this match went even one step further. It was played on what was purported to be real turf, but which in truth was real mud.

Alabama proved to be the best "mudder" because of a lanky youngster from Foley, Alabama, called "Snake." The Tide's usually potent offense had only one meaningful play on this afternoon. The one play, however, was enough to break Auburn's defensive heart.

Senior quarterback Kenny Stabler, whose passing skills directed the Tide to a 7-1-1 mark coming into the Iron Bowl, completed only 3 of 5 passes for a mere 12 yards in the rain. On this day the southpaw would be remembered not for his passing, but for a fourth quarter 47-yard touchdown run that erased the field goal lead Auburn had spent all afternoon building.

Alabama Head Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant was thought by many Alabama fans to have certain powers concerning water, and the events of this day only reinforced them. On the other hand, Ralph "Shug" Jordan watched his Auburn ship sink in a sea of controversy.

Tiger fans weren't the only ones bitter following the loss. Jordan was furious too. So furious that he said after the game "The best team didn't win."

Jordan was quoted as saying, "I've been around long enough to know that the only thing that counts is what you read on the scoreboard lights. But I don't think the best team won today.

"We should've won the game, but we didn't. A weak snap from center and Stabler's run were the big differences in the ball game."

Jordan stood behind his Tigers and knew his team deserved more than just mud in the eye. And why not? Auburn dominated from the opening kickoff, a kickoff in which Tide defenders were slipping and sliding, only Eddie Propst saving a touchdown return.

Auburn got the best of a first half punting duel and reached the Bama five for a first down. However, on fourth and goal from the three the Tide held. Most of the rest of the scoreless first half was played on Alabama's end of the field.

Auburn took a 3-0 lead in the third quarter when John Riley rammed a 38-yard field goal through the rain. Another Auburn field goal try was foiled by a fumbled snap.

The Tigers were threatening again as the fourth quarter began, but a first down at the Tide 15 was wiped out by a penalty and Auburn was forced to punt. A low snap was fumbled and Alabama took over near midfield. On third and three Stabler made the play to remember.

Auburn linebacker Gusty Yearout remembers it like it was yesterday. "We knew that when Alabama had third and short they liked to run the option. I had noticed earlier that (Bama tight end) Dennis Dixon split out a couple of yards when they were running the option, and when they came up to the line I saw him split. I told our end that I was going to blitz inside Dixon. The play started, and the only thing Dixon could do was reach out and tackle me."

So forceful was the Tiger defense that Alabama managed only five first downs and was out-gained 216 yards to 176 on offense.

Statisitics, though, don't win ball games.

Just as important, Alabama's defense stood up to the Tiger offense led by quarterback Loran Carter, who led the SEC in passing and total offense in 1967. Allowing Auburn only three points earned the the high

praise of Bryant.

"Everyone remembers Stabler's run," said Yearout, "but we were down close often enough we should have won anyway."

Jordan remained furious. And viewing the game film Sunday only added fuel to the already heated fire.

Jordan publicly criticized Alabama and the officials the next day. According to Jordan, Stabler's run that beat Auburn in the final quarter should have cost the Crimson Tide 15 yards instead of netting 47 yards for the game's only touchdown.

Bryant disagreed. The Alabama coach, narrating Alabama's film on television, said that Dennis Homan threw the key block to spring Stabler and that David Chatwood also had a vital block at the point of attack.

This didn't satisfy Jordan.

"I would call it a tackle," he said referring to the way Dixon eliminated Yearout. "Gusty would have had Stabler for a two-yard loss except for the tackle. Gusty ran through inside Dixon and Dixon grabbed him just like a tackle.

"It was not the ordinary type of holding where a man's arm gets in front of his body a little bit or something like that. It was a flagrant violation of the holding rule. It was a tackle. Dixon knows that."

Jordan continued, "Stabler was Gusty's responsibility on the play and I don't think Dixon could have blocked Gusty Yearout in a hundred years legally.

"I knew about it Saturday. Our coaches in the press box called down to the sideline right after the play and said that Alabama's right end tackled Gusty. Gusty had no way of knowing about that communication. When he came off the field I asked him what happened and he said the end tackled him. After hearing it from two sources, there was nothing to do but look at the films Sunday."

Bryant added no salt to the open wound. He did, however, offer this: "Of course, if there was any grabbing or holding it should have been called. But I wasn't officiating."

Who Won Party?

Gusty Yearout was no stranger to Alabama football players. Each summer he worked out with former Birmingham Ramsay teammate Frank Canterbury, Jerry Duncan and other Tiders at Ramsay.

Almost as much as "The play," Gusty remembers the coin toss prior to the 1967 Alabama-Auburn game. He was Auburn's captain and Ken Stabler was representing the Alabama seniors serving as captains for the game. "Back then the coaches taught you to hate the opponent," remembers Yearout. "I was intense and competitive anyway, so I had worked up a real hate for Alabama going into the game.

"As we went out for the coin toss I put on the meanest, hardest look I could. I meant to intimidate Stabler from the start. When we got to the middle of the field I was trying to stare Stabler down, the referee was trying to introduce the captains, and Stabler was talking.

"He said 'Hey Gusty, what are y'all doing after the game? We're having a party at the Bankhead. We've got plenty of beer, so let's get this game over with and y'all come on down.' Well, I guess it made me mad that my intimidation wasn't working. Finally I stammered, 'What room?' "

And did he go? "Sure," said Yearout. "I got there and the first thing I did was cuss out Stabler. And the second thing I did was cuss out Dixon. They just laughed."

—Kirk McNair

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BAMA SCORECARD

Frosh Casualties

Four members of the freshman football class at Alabama have under gone surgery and are now in various stages of recovery.

Tim Matheny, a lineman from Semmes, had played with an injury in high school and when he arrived at Bama it was determined he needed surgery on his collarbone. Because of a calcium buildup, part of the collarbone had to be removed. He is doing exercise and strength work and should be ready to go in the spring.

Wide receiver Craig Sanderson of Hamilton suffered ligament and cartilage damage to his knee, under went surgery, and is in a brace. He will be limited in the spring.

Defensive back Brian Stutson of Birmingham Parker also suffered a knee injury, a sprained ligament, and had a surgical repair. He is expected to be ready to go in the spring.

Center Jody Dowda of Canton, Georgia, suffered an ankle injury that required surgery. He, too, is expected to be ready for spring training.

Other Redshirts

In addition to the four freshmen recuperating from surgery, almost all other members of the 1987 signing class are being redshirted. The exceptions are linebacker Steve Ramer and placekicker Philip Doyle. Two other technically true freshmen, linebacker Robert Stewart and offensive guard Trent Patterson, are also playing, but they were 1986 signees who spent last fall in prep school, became eligible, and took part in spring training.

Three other freshmen are missing football this year having failed to meet academic requirements. Linebackers Keith McCants and Terry Langston and defensive lineman George Thornton will be able to participate next fall as sophomores if they pass the same number of hours all other freshman players must pass for 1988 eligibility.

At least three varsity players are currently being held out with plans to redshirt them—senior wide receiver Greg Payne, who started the year but had several hand injuries, and running backs William Kent (a sophomore who was an academic casualty last year) and Murry Hill (a junior who has not lettered).

1988 Schedule

Alabama will have a new, already much-discussed, ticket priority plan in place next year and Bama Athletics Director Steve Sloan has announced the Tide's 1988 schedule, perhaps the earliest it has ever been announced.

Alabama will host three games each in Tuscaloosa's expanded and renovated Bryant-Denny Stadium, three in Birmingham's Legion Field.

The three Tuscaloosa games are Vanderbilt September 24, Ole Miss October 8 and LSU November 5. Ole Miss will be the homecoming opponent. The three Birmingham games will be against Penn State October 22, Southwestern Louisiana November 12 and Auburn either Friday, November 25, or Saturday, November 26. Last summer Alabama and Auburn agreed to move their annual game to Friday in exchange for guaranteed national television coverage by CBS.

Mississippi State shows on its advance schedules that the Bama game against the Bulldogs next year will return to Jackson after having been in Starkville in 1986.

Alabama's entire 1988 schedule:

Sept. 10	@ Temple
Sept. 17	@ Texas A&M
Sept. 24	Vanderbilt
Oct. 1	@ Kentucky
Oct. 8	Ole Miss
Oct. 15	@ Tennessee
Oct. 22	Penn State
Oct. 29	@ Mississippi State
Nov. 5	LSU
Nov. 12	Southwestern Louisiana
Nov. 25 or 26	Auburn

Basketball Walkons

Faced with starting basketball practice with barely enough players to scrimmage, Alabama Head Basketball Coach Wimp Sanderson gave Graduate Assistant Coach Mike Murphy the assignment of finding some students who could help out in practice.

Murphy conducted student tryouts following varsity practice and found some helpers, all of them wing players.

Tim Kiser lived in Texas and went to Seminole Junior College in Oklahoma, where he played basketball. When his family moved to Birmingham he decided to complete his electrical engineering education at Alabama. He's a 6-6 junior.

Rodney Wesley of Eutaw is a 6-4 player who went to Northwestern Community College in Colorado before transferring to Alabama to finish his studies.

Kenneth Hutcherson, 6-5, from Tuskegee, was looked at by Alabama recruiters in his senior season, but ended up signing with Birmingham Samford. He transferred and is not eligible to play this year, but can practice. He's a sophomore.

The only true freshman to make the team is Charles Watson of Henderson High School in Troy. He's 6-4.

Basketball Magazine

The preseason basketball magazines are making their way onto the newsstands now. One of the most interesting is *A Fan's Guide To SEC Basketball* ($4.95 if you can find it or $6.95 by mail from Host Communications, P.O. Box 1987-A, Lexington, KY 40593). As all preseason publications it is a little dated because of late developments, but the stories are well-written and it is full of interesting facts. (Don't expect it—or any other publication—to pick Alabama high. This one predicts Bama will be eighth in the Southeastern Conference and puts no Tiders on either its first or second team preseason All-SEC squad.)

But it tells you things such as:

For the past two years Alabama has had the best record in SEC play overall, at home, on the road, in regular season play and in SEC tournament play; that Alabama led the SEC in three-point field goal, overall field goal, and free throw shooting last year; that 54 percent of Alabama's players are from Alabama (third behind Florida's 77 percent, Georgia's 67 percent homegrown); that since 1975 Alabama has been in the NCAA tournament eight times, second only to Kentucky with 10 appearances; that Terry Coner was the SEC leader in assists last year overall, in SEC games only, and in non-SEC games only; it also points out that Coner was the leader in SEC road games (those credited by opposing statistics crews), but that Tennessee's Fred Jenkins got the most from his home stats crew (averaging 8.0 assists at home, only 3.3 on the road); and that Bama's Wimp Sanderson is the league's winningest coach over the past six years.

Now For A Break

Alabama Head Baseball Coach Barry Shollenberger would love to be moving into regular season play now, but on the same weekend major league baseball ended so did his preseason work. Bama had a 13-1-1 record during its fall schedule of practice games, now has a few months off before the regular season cranks up.

He said he was generally pleased with the fall work. Among those catching his eye were Hunter Plott and Brent Reese at first base; Jason Bridges and Ken Trusky in right field; Clint Thompson and Tim Butt at catcher; and David Matsumura in left field (where Bama's leading offensive player from last year, Deron White, is absent while recuperating from a broken leg).

He was pleased by the work of returning pitching aces Mike Sodders and David Oropeza, as well as newcomers Mike Soper and Pete Hinkle and redshirt freshman Tommy Milstead.

There's more bad news on the injury front, new pitchers Rodney Downey and Browne Hatcher under going surgery.

Stadium Update

Most of the stadium attention in Tuscaloosa is on progress at Bryant-Denny, but things are moving on a new baseball stadium, too. Although there are no firm plans, work is underway to plan the type, size and completion date for a new baseball stadium.

Stimpson Takes A Break

John Stimpson, who was one of Alabama's outstanding tennis performers last year as a freshman, has decided to take a year off from the Tide, Alabama Head Coach Tommy Wade said. "He's in California playing tennis and has indicated he will return next year," said Wade. Stimpson is from Mobile.

Swim Coach Losses

When Alabama football was in its glory it was not unusual for several assistant coaches to be sought out by other schools for head coaches or advanced assistant positions. Alabama Head Swimming Coach Don Gambril is widely-recognized as among the nation's best in his field, so it's not surprising that he's also seeing an exodus from his staff. Top assistant Brian Gordon has been named head coach at Bowling Green in Ohio after six years at Bama; diving coach Mike Fenneran left the profession for an opportunity in business; Margo Mahoney, a graduate assistant for three years, was named women's coach at Eastern Michigan; and Chuck Horton, a graduate assistant for one year, was named women's coach at Villanova.

Real Expert Analysis

A column in the *Jackson Clarion-Ledger* prior to Mississippi State's game at Auburn claimed that Auburn now had the best college football program in the state of Alabama. It quoted Bobby Wallace as saying "Auburn's on top and they are going to stay on top." Who is Bobby Wallace? He was an assistant coach under Pat Dye, left coaching for awhile, then got back into it and is now at Illinois. Last year he was defensive coordinator of the Mississippi State team that held Alabama to only 514 yards rushing and 38 points.

Reaching Way Down

If it hadn't been reported by one of the nation's most responsible sports reporters, David Davidson of *The Atlanta Journal And Constitution*, it would be almost impossible to believe. Reported Davidson:

"When the public address announcer informed the crowd at (Georgia's) Sanford Stadium last weekend that Alabama had lost to Memphis State, LSU fans chanted in unison, 'Bear Bryant's dead, Bear Bryant's dead.' "

Alabama teams under Paul Bryant had a 16-4 record against LSU.

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ALABAMA'S WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

Men's Basketball

Nov. 21	Athletes In Action
Nov. 27-29	@ Hawaii Rainbow
(Central Michigan, New Mexico State, Hawaii-Pacific)	
Dec. 5	Southern Cal @ B'ham
Dec. 9	@ South Carolina (ESPN)
Dec. 12	Northeast Louisiana
Dec. 19	Montana State
Dec. 21	Mississippi Valley
Dec. 23	@ Arkansas (USA)
Dec. 28-29	@ Florida Citrus
(Central Florida, Pittsburgh, Florida State)	
Jan. 2	Baptist
Jan. 7	Georgia (ESPN)
Jan. 9	@ Mississippi State
Jan. 13	Kentucky (ESPN)
Jan. 16	@ Vanderbilt
Jan. 20	@ LSU (ESPN)
Jan. 23	Ole Miss (SEC-TV)
Jan. 27	@ Auburn
Jan. 30	Tennessee
Feb. 3	Florida
Feb. 6	@ Georgia
Feb. 10	Mississippi State
Feb. 13	@ Kentucky (SEC-TV)
Feb. 17	Vanderbilt
Feb. 20	LSU (SEC-TV)
Feb. 24	@ Ole Miss
Feb. 27	Auburn (SEC-TV)
March 2	@ Tennessee (SEC-TV)
March 5	@ Florida
March 10-13	SEC Tourney @ LSU

Women's Basketball

Nov. 27	@ Tennessee State
Nov. 29-30	@ Bowling Green Invitational
(Arizona, Western Kentucky, Evansville)	
Dec. 4-5	@ Investors Classic
(Virginia, Syracuse, St. Joseph's)	
Dec. 8	@ Livingston
Dec. 13	@ Alabama-Birmingham
Dec. 19	Montevallo
Dec. 20	Southern Miss
Dec. 31	@ New Mexico State
Jan. 2	@ Texas Tech
Jan. 7	Georgia
Jan. 13	Kentucky
Jan. 15	Arkansas State
Jan. 20	LSU
Jan. 23	@ Tennessee
Jan. 27	Auburn
Feb. 1	@ Florida State
Feb. 3	@ Florida
Feb. 8	Middle Tennessee
Feb. 10	Alcorn State
Feb. 13	@ Mississippi State
Feb. 15	Union
Feb. 18	@ Vanderbilt
Feb. 24	@ Ole Miss
Feb. 26	Alabama State
March 4-8	SEC @ Albany, Ga.

Men's Swimming

Oct. 30	@ Florida State
Nov. 12	@ Louisville
Nov. 13	@ Notre Dame
Dec. 3-6	Crimson Tide NIT
(Arizona, Arkansas, Harvard, Iowa, Kansas, New Orleans, Southern Illinois, Southern Methodist)	
Jan. 9	Virginia
Jan. 15	Tulane
Jan. 15	Delta State
Jan. 16	Northeast Louisiana
Jan. 23	@ Kentucky
Jan. 30	@ Auburn
Feb. 13	@ Florida
Feb. 24-27	SEC @ Knoxville
April 7-9	NCAA @ Indianapolis

Gymnastics

Jan. 16	Auburn
Jan. 22	@ Penn State
Jan. 22	New Hampshire
Jan. 29	@ LSU
Feb. 6	Red & White Classic
(Georgia, Minnesota, Utah, Wisconsin)	
Feb. 13	Arizona State
Feb. 27	@ Kentucky
March 4	North Carolina
March 6	Bulldog Invitational @ Athens
March 10	@ Arizona State
March 14	@ Utah
March 26	SEC Championships
March 31	@ Auburn
April 9	NCAA Regions @ LSU
April 22-23	NCAA @ Utah

Women's Swimming

Oct. 30	@ Florida State
Nov. 12	@ Louisville
Nov. 13	@ Notre Dame
Dec. 3-6	Crimson Tide NIT
(Arizona, Arkansas, Harvard, Iowa, Kansas, New Orleans, Southern Illinois, Southern Methodist)	
Jan. 9	Virginia
Jan. 15	Tulane
Jan. 15	Delta State
Jan. 16	Northeast Louisiana
Jan. 22	@ Vanderbilt
Jan. 23	@ Kentucky
Jan. 30	@ Auburn
Feb. 13	@ Florida
Feb. 24-27	SEC @ Knoxville
March 17-19	NCAA @ Austin

Men's Track

Jan. 16	Hoosier Invitational
Jan. 22-23	East Tennessee Invitational
Jan. 29-30	Florida Invitational
Feb. 5	Millrose Games
Feb. 12-13	Huster Invitational
Feb. 27-28	SEC Championships @ LSU
March 5	Last Chance @ Gainesville
March 11-12	NCAA @ Oklahoma

Women's Track

Jan. 16	Hoosier Invitational
Jan. 22-23	East Tennessee Invitational
Jan. 29-30	Florida Invitational
Feb. 5	Millrose Games
Feb. 12-13	Huster Invitational
Feb. 27-28	SEC Championships @ LSU
March 5	Last Chance @ Gainesville
March 11-12	NCAA @ Oklahoma

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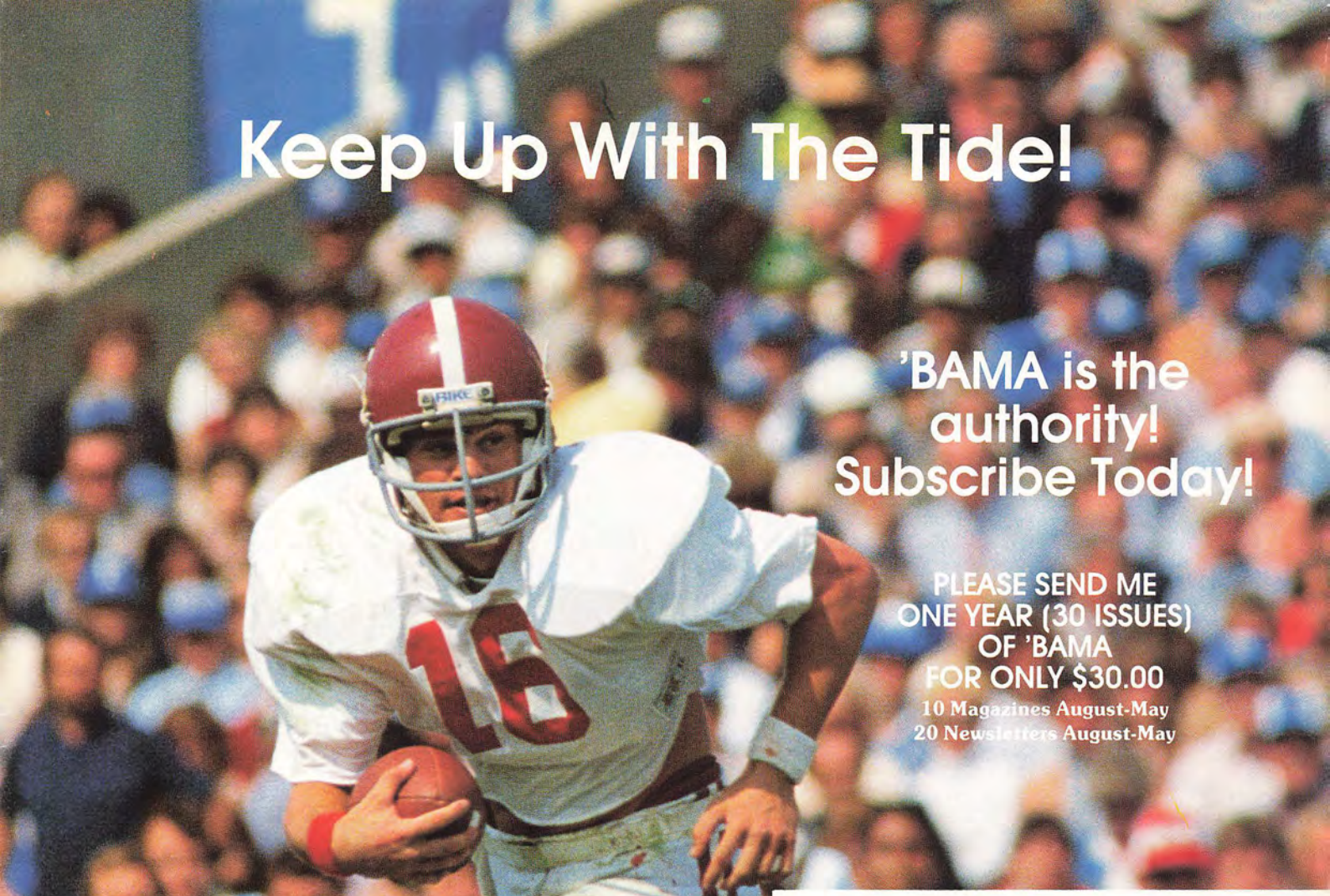
Schedules Of Alabama's Football Opponents

Team	Aug.30	Sept. 5	Sept. 12	Sept. 19	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 24	Oct. 31	Nov. 7	Nov. 14	Nov. 21	Nov. 28
SOUTHERN MISS Golden Eagles Hattiesburg		@ **ALABAMA** 6-38		Tulane 31-24	Texas A&M 14-27	@ Louisville 65-6	FSU 10-61	Miss. State 18-14	@ Memphis State 17-14	Jackson St.	NE Louisiana	E. Carolina		SW Louisiana
PENN STATE Nittany Lions University Park		Bowling Green 45-19	**ALABAMA** 13-24	Cincinnati 41-0	@ Boston College 27-17	Temple 27-13	Rutgers 35-21	@ Syracuse 21-48		W. Virginia	Maryland (Baltimore)	@ Pittsburgh	Notre Dame	
FLORIDA Gators Gainesville		@ Miami 4-31	Tulsa 52-0	@ **ALABAMA** 23-14	Miss. St. 38-3	@ LSU 10-13	Cal State Fullerton 65-0	Temple 34-3		@ Auburn	Georgia	Kentucky		FSU
VANDERBILT Commodores Nashville			Memphis St. 27-17	@ Duke 31-35	**ALABAMA** 23-30	@ Tulane 17-27	@ Auburn 15-48	Georgia 24-52	@ Ole Miss 14-42	Rutgers	Kentucky		Maryland	@ Tennessee
SW LOUISIANA Ragin' Cajuns Lafayette		@ Miss. State 3-31	Nevada-LV 21-10		@ Okla. St. 0-36	@ **ALABAMA** 10-38	NW State 13-3	@ Ole Miss 14-24	@ NE Louisiana 17-7		Memphis St.	@ Tulane	Colorado St.	Southern Miss
MEMPHIS STATE Tigers Memphis		Ole Miss 16-10	@ Vanderbilt 17-27	@ FSU 24-41		@ Miss. State 6-9	**ALABAMA** 13-10	Tulane 45-36	Southern Miss 14-17	Ark. State	@ SW Louisiana	Louisville	@ Tulsa	
TENNESSEE Volunteers Knoxville	Iowa 23-22	Colorado St. 49-3	@ Miss. St. 38-10		Auburn 20-20	California 38-12		@ **ALABAMA** 22-41	Georgia Tech 29-15	@ Boston Col.	Louisville	Ole Miss	@ Kentucky	Vanderbilt
MISSISSIPPI STATE Bulldogs Starkville		SW Louisiana 31-3	Tennessee 10-38	La. Tech 14-13	@ Florida 3-38	Memphis St. 9-6		Southern Miss 14-18	@ Auburn 38-7	@ **ALABAMA** 7-30	Tulane	@ LSU	Ole Miss	
LSU Tigers Baton Rouge		Texas A&M 17-3	Cal State Fullerton 56-12	Rice 49-16	Ohio State 13-13	Florida 13-10	@ Georgia 26-23	Kentucky 34-9		Ole Miss Jackson	**ALABAMA** 7:00 CST	Miss. State	@ Tulane	
NOTRE DAME Fighting Irish South Bend, Ind.			@ Michigan 26-7	Michigan St. 31-8	@ Purdue 44-20		@ Pittsburgh 22-30	@ Air Force 35-14	USC 26-15	Navy	Boston Col.	**ALABAMA** 1:30 EST	@ Penn State	@ Miami
AUBURN Tigers Auburn		Texas 31-3	Kansas 49-0		@ Tennessee 20-20	@ N. Carolina 20-10	Vanderbilt 48-15	@ Ga. Tech 20-10	Miss. State 38-7	Florida	FSU	@ Georgia		**ALABAMA** (Nov. 27) Birmingham 1:30 CST



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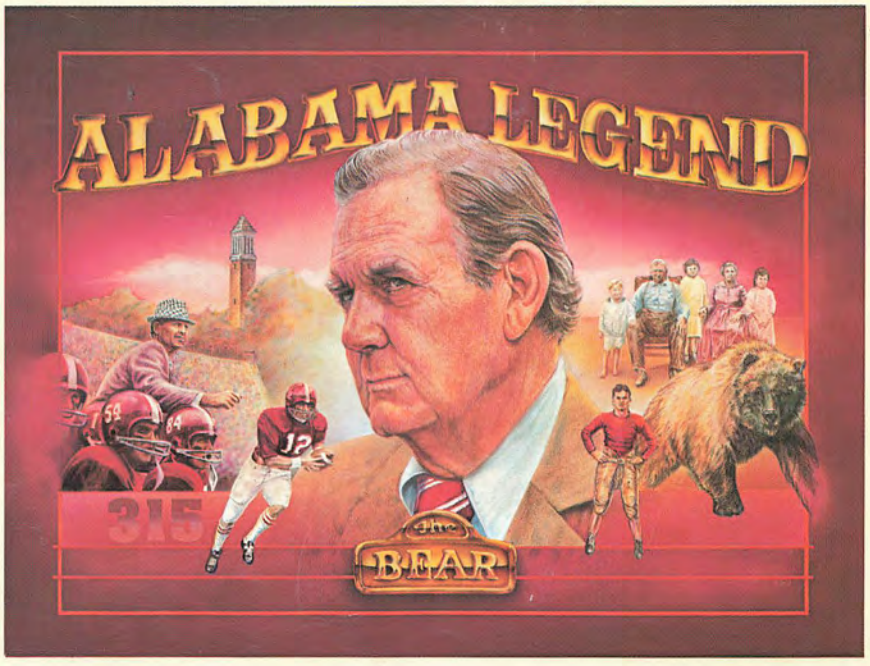

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